

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 933  
By Pleasant

A RESOLUTION to commend W. S. Howard for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, W. S. "Babe" Howard is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure as the President and General Manager of Millington Telephone Company, Babe Howard has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Howard's keen business sense and civic pride have served the community of Millington and the counties of Shelby and Tipton well throughout the years, thanks to Mr. Howard's astute service as a Millington Alderman for nineteen years; member of the Beer Board, the Millington Chamber of Commerce, and the South Tipton County Chamber of Commerce; and a supporter of local schools, the University of Memphis, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital; and

WHEREAS, Babe Howard has further served his fellow citizens as the former director of the Millington United Fund and the Millington Crime Stoppers; he has also served on the Millington Planning Commission, the Board of Directors for the Memphis Belle Memorial Association, and the Shelby County School Board; and

WHEREAS, a sponsor of many sports teams and an advocate for the youth of his community, Mr. Howard built the USA Stadium, which has been rated as the top facility of its kind in the region; the state-of-the-art facility gives exposure to talented young baseball players in the area, thereby increasing their chances for scholarships and pro offers; and

WHEREAS, as a past chairman and current board member of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission, Mr. Howard played an instrumental role in saving the Ghost River, part of the Wolf River, from destruction; he additionally serves on the boards of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Foundation and the Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation; and

WHEREAS, for his philanthropy and altruism, which are indeed evident throughout all of Tennessee, Mr. Howard received the State of Tennessee Humanitarian Award, presented by Governor Winfield Dunn and Mrs. Tex Ritter; and

WHEREAS, a member of our country's greatest generation, Mr. W. S. Howard honorably and courageously defended his country as a member of the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment in Europe during World War II; he further served in the Honor Guard under General Eisenhower during the occupation after the war until his honorable discharge from military service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Howard's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Babe Howard is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Howard was married to the late Ann Anderson Howard until her untimely death in 2002; he is the proud father of four children and the loving grandfather of six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Howard is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend W. S. "Babe" Howard for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee as a businessman, philanthropist, and environmentalist, and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.